

Serial No. 09/814,663

Attorney Docket No. LX00083

Amdt. dated December 28, 2004

Reply to Office Action of August 4, 2004, and Advisory Action of November 29, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 28 through 37 remain in this application. Claims 28 and 29 have been amended.

Claims 28, 29, and 32 through 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,005,498 to Yang, et al. ("Yang, et al. patent"). Also, claims 30 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Yang, et al. patent.

Claims 28 as amended provides, *inter alia*, a plurality of keys, including keys "1" through "9" and "0", configured for data entry of numbers and symbols of a Romanized Chinese phonetic alphabet, each key representing at least one syllable initial symbol of a syllable initial symbol group or at least one syllable semi-initial symbol of a syllable semi-initial symbol group of the Romanized Chinese phonetic alphabet. In contrast, FIG. 3 of the Yang, et al. patent shows a keypad layout including keys "1" through "9" and "0" in which keys "1" and "0" do not represent at least one syllable initial symbol or at least one syllable semi-initial symbol. FIG. 4 of the Yang, et al. patent shows a keypad layout that is not configured for data entry of a Romanized alphabet and, in addition, key "0" does not represent at least one syllable initial symbol or at least one syllable semi-initial symbol. Therefore, claim 28 distinguishes patentably from the Yang, et al. patent.

Claim 33 provides, *inter alia*, a plurality of nine keys arranged in three rows by three columns and configured for data entry of a Romanized Chinese phonetic alphabet, each key representing two syllable initial symbols of a syllable initial symbol group of the Romanized Chinese phonetic alphabet. In contrast, FIG. 3 of the Yang, et al. patent shows a keypad layout

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having a 3x3 configuration (i.e., keys "1" through "9") in which key "1" does not represent any syllable initial symbols and key "8" represents only one syllable initial symbol. FIG. 4 of the Yang, et al. patent shows a keypad layout that is not configured for data entry of a Romanized alphabet. Therefore, claim 33 distinguishes patentably from the Yang, et al. patent.

Claims 29 through 32 and 34 through 37 depend from and include all limitations of independent claims 28 and 33, respectively. Therefore, claims 29 through 32 and 34 through 37 distinguish patentably from the Yang, et al. patent for the reason stated above for independent claims 28 and 33.

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections of claims 28 through 37 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. Also, no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any additional fees arising as a result of this response, including any fees for Extensions of Time, or any other communication from or to credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2117.

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It is submitted that the claims clearly define the invention, are supported by the specification and drawings, and are in a condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Should the Examiner have any questions or concerns that may expedite prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
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